

REMARKS

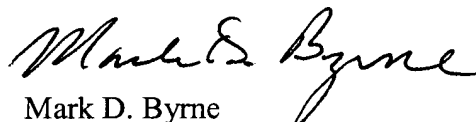
Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 13-16, 18-20, 22-27 and 29-32 have been canceled. New claims 34-67 have been added to more particularly point out the patentable features of the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the newly added claims are patentably distinct over the cited prior art.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections, allowance, and early passage through issuance. If the examiner has any questions, the examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's agent listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM^{PLLC}



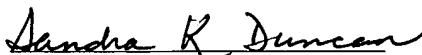
Mark D. Byrne
Registration No. 50,125
Direct Dial: 206.957.2481

MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via first class mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.08 on the date indicated below addressed to: MAIL STOP FEE AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

April 19, 2004

Date of Deposit



Sandra K. Duncan